

## Pink slips sent to 117 Shasta County teachers

By Damon Arthur

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Shasta County school districts have notified 117 teachers that they will be laid off at the end of the school year, a teachers union representative said Monday, the deadline for sending out the pink slips.

That number is down from the 158 who received notices last year. However, 100 of the teachers who received notices last year eventually were hired to teach again for this school year.

That isn't likely to happen this year, said Cork McGowan, chapter services consultant for the California Teachers Association office in Redding.

Last year, economic stimulus money enabled school districts to hire back teachers in August when school started. The money isn't available this year, McGowan said.

"We don't think that is going to happen, given the state budget," McGowan said.

Statewide, 22,000 teachers received layoff notices, according to the California Department of Education. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has proposed cutting \$2.4 billion from education this year, forcing schools to gear up for layoffs for the 2010-2011 school year, the education department said.

Anderson Union High School District Superintendent Tim Azevedo noted that districts have been cutting budgets for three years and said they are running out of room to trim. The Anderson High district issued slips to the equivalent of seven full-time teachers.

"When you look at the compounding effect, there's nowhere left to cut," Azevedo said.

As of Monday, the cuts only affect certificated employees - including teachers, counselors, psychologists and speech pathologists. Not included are classified employees, such as classroom aides, secretaries, custodians and other nonteaching jobs.

Azevedo said no sports, music or drama programs have been cut. Red Bluff Union High School District announced last fall that it was not offering summer school.

The Shasta Union High School District voted earlier this month to lay off the equivalent of 20 certificated employees. The Redding School District is cutting 26 full-time equivalent positions, and the Enterprise Elementary School District issued notices to the equivalent of about 30 full-time jobs.

Gateway Unified School District Superintendent Robert Hubbell said his district has not sent out layoff notices to any teachers or other certificated staffers.

Reporter Damon Arthur can be reached at 225-8226 or at [darthur@redding.com](mailto:darthur@redding.com).



© 2010 Scripps Newspaper Group — Online